

REMARKS

Claim 3 has been canceled. Claims 1 and 8-11 have been amended, and new claims 12-14 have been added. The application now includes claims 1, 2, and 4-14.

With regard to amended claim 1 and new claim 13, Figures 2a-d and 3 show the second conductive member fully located within the connector. With regard to new claims 12 and 14, Figures 2d and 3 show the V-shaped contact pins secured to the inner side surface of the connector (see also, the specification at page 9, line 2 et seq.). With regard to claim 9, Figure 2a shows the chamber in the connector shaped as a columnar through hole.

The drawings have been objected by the Examiner for not showing the “memory module” claimed in claim 3. Responding to this objection claim 3 has been canceled. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the drawings objection. Furthermore, cancellation of claim 3 also makes moot the rejection of claim 3 for obviousness over a combination of U.S. Patent 6,435,882 to Pitou and U.S. Patent 6,421,250 to Kim.

Claim 9 has been amended to correct the spelling error for the word “first” which was identified by the Examiner. In view of the amendment, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the claims objection.

In response to the objection to the amendment lodged under 35 U.S.C. 132, the text “so as to reinforce the module accommodated in the chamber” has been deleted from claims 8 and 11. In view of the amendment, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the objection.

Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In response, claim 8 has been amended to eliminate the text “the bottom face” which was identified by the Examiner. In addition, claim 9 has been amended to reference the top and bottom surfaces of the connector. As can be seen from Figures 2a-d and 3, the top surface of the connector includes the opening where the module body is inserted, and the bottom surface of the connector is where the plate can be attached. Neither claim now requires a reinforcement feature. In view of

the above, the rejection should now be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2 and 5-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by patent to Pitou (U.S. Patent 6,435,882). Claim 4 has been rejected as being obvious over Pitou in view of applicant's admitted prior art (defined as Figures 4a-5d of the application). These rejections are traversed.

The Examiner's attention is directed to Figures 1 and 2a of Pitou. Here it can be seen that the conductive member 29 is not provided on the inner side face of the connector as suggested by the Examiner. Rather, contacts 29 of Pitou overlap the border of the connector. This has a significant adverse impact on the size of the device. As shown in Figures 2a-d and 3 of the application, the second conductive member is fully located within the connector, there are no parts extending out of the body of the connector. This allows for very compact structure compared to that contemplated by Pitou. As such, claim 1 is not anticipated by Pitou. Further, Figure 5d of the application (identified as AAPA by the Examiner) has this same problem (note 9b and 10b extending outwardly). As such, the AAPA does not make up for the deficiencies of Pitou, and no combination of Pitou would make claim 4, as well as any of claims 1, 2 and 4-8 obvious.

With respect to new claim 12, Pitou specifies in column 4, lines 4 to 8 that those contact pins could have S or C shape. As it is described on the page 9, lines 2 to 4 of the present specification claimed invention provides the contact pins bent into a generally inverted V-shape and fixed securely to the inner side face of the chamber 25a. The Applicant respectfully asserts that the structure shown by the Pitou is different and cannot provide a level of compactness of the connector as the Applicant does.

Claims 9 and 10 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,360,353 to Kinoshita. Claim 11 was rejected as being obvious over Kinoshita in view of U.S. Patent 5,226,824 to Karlovich. These rejections are traversed.

With reference to Figure 10 of Kinoshita, the first opening 64 does not have the same shape and dimension as the second opening 62. Furthermore, there is a partition wall 63 between the first opening 64 and the second opening 62. Thus, Kinoshita does not show or suggest having the chamber shaped as a columnar

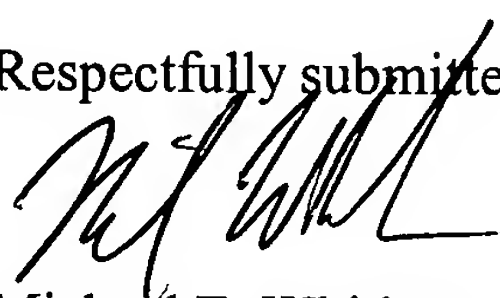
through hole penetrating from the first opening to the second opening, as is required in amended claim 9. Further, Karlovich does not make up for this deficiency of Kinoshita, as Karlovich shows base 22. As such, Kinoshita does not anticipate claims 9 or 10, and none of claims 9, 10, 11, 13 or 14 would be obvious over any combination of Kinoshita and Karlovich.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1-2 and 4-14 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.).

Respectfully submitted,



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